

Minutes of BAF AGM

30th June 2016
CVS Offices, Bedford

Present:

Annette Pacey (Treasurer)	BPHA
Brian Cunningham (Vice-Chair)	BRASS
Bryden Keenan	BRASS
Elliott Stephenson	Aragon Housing
Fiona McLeod	Money Advice at St Andrew's
Tim Papworth	Money Advice at St Andrew's
Len Simkins	Autism Bedfordshire
Jason Tsiricos	PBIC
Paulette Rennie	Bedford Community Self-Help Group
Mark Sutcliffe	Citizen Advice Bedford
Ellie Hamilton	Gateway Housing Support
Jenny Harris	Carers in Bedfordshire
David Verney (Chair)	Advice Bedfordshire
Martin Trinder	CVS
Christina King	Disability Resource Centre (Advice Central)
Tracey Rupiya	MIND
Lila Begum	Stonewater Ltd
Karen Lister	Bedford Salvation Army - Debt Advice Service
David Wood	Citizen Advice Leighton Linlade
Lucy Bardner	Harpur Trust

Apologies

Anne O'Regan	Central Bedfordshire Libraries
Trevor Moisey	Housing Debt Advisor
Karen Nicholson	Rutland Road Church
Kerry O'Neil	BPHA
Noor Mohammed Eliseo D'Agostino	Bedford Borough Libraries
Jenny Hedges	Aldwyk Housing
Wendy Walters	Citizen Advice Mid Bedfordshire
	St Marks Church

<i>Item</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Action</i>
3	Presentation by Lucy Bardner – Harpur Trust	<p>Lucy gave an overview of the 450th Anniversary Celebrations and the various grant scheme available from the Trust.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation can be found on the BAF website - www.bedsadvicefourm.org.uk</p> <p>David thanked Lucy on behalf of BAF for the presentation.</p>	
4	Minutes of the Last AGM (17th June 1015) and Matters Arising	<p>The minutes of the last Forum meeting were agreed.</p> <p>There were no matters arising but it was noted that Bromford Support is now known as Gateway Support.</p>	
5	Chair's Report and BAF Annual Report 2015/16	<p>A copy of the annual report was tabled and David outlined the work of BAF during the past year.</p> <p>David acknowledged the huge amount of work undertaken by member organisations, and outlined the key role the Forum plays in bringing organisations together.</p> <p>The annual report was approved. A copy of the report can be found on the BAF website - www.bedsadvicefourm.org.uk</p>	

6 Treasurers Report 2015/16 Annette provided members with a statement of the financial activity for 2015/16, and provided a verbal overview of the year. BAF made slight profit in the year, bringing funds up to £1,567.

Annette also provide an outline budget for 2016-17.

Due to new banking charges, the Steering Group have agreed to close the current bank account and transfer the balance to CVS, who will hold the funds on BAF's behalf.

The financial report was approved. A copy of the report can be found on the BAF website - www.bedsadviceforum.org.uk

7 BAF Membership Fees 2016/17 It was agreed that the membership fees shall remain the same this year:

- £35 standard rate
- £60 higher rate for organisations with over 100 staff
- £10 lower rate for organisations with only volunteers.

To reduce confusion, all payments can be made to CVS

8 BAF Elections

BAF Officers

David had notified members some time ago that he would not be standing for Chair. Following discussions and volunteers coming forward, the following were elected unanimously:

Chair	Vacant	
Deputy Chair	Brian Cunningham	BRASS
Treasurer	Annette Pacey	BPHA - Money Advice
Member	Jason Tsiricos	PBIC
Member	Elliott Stephenson	Aragon Housing
Member	David Verney	Advice Bedfordshire

It was agreed that the Steering Group will consider the practicalities of nobody being appointed Chair at their next meeting.

David thanked Paulette Rennie for serving on the steering group for a number of years.

Anybody else interested in joining the Steering Group were encouraged to contact the chair.

No Secretary was appointed as the Secretariat (CVS) undertake this function.

BAF Representatives on Advice Planning Board (Central Bedfordshire)

BAF have three places on this board. The following people were elected:

David Wood - Citizen Advice Leighton Linlade
Elliott Stephenson – Aragon Housing

The third place will be decided by the Steering Group following a discussion with Karen Perry at Age UK Bedfordshire.

It was noted that the Advice Planning Board has been renamed the 'Advice Strategy Management Group'.

9 Any other business None.
